

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUATEM 03437 011722Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 MCT-01 USSS-00 SY-05 SSO-00
NSCE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 USIE-00 PRS-01 PA-01 INRE-00
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAEC-00 DHA-02 DODE-00 /048 W
-----011725Z 025274 /46

O R 011708Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6227
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, GT, ES, IDB
SUBJ: KIDNAPPERS FREE SALVADORAN AMBASSADOR

REF: GUATEMALA 3406 AND 3407 (NOTAL)

1. SALVADORAN AMBASSADOR CASANOVA WAS FOUND BY A FRIEND AT ABOUT 1800 HOURS MAY 31, IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF GUATEMALA CITY WHERE HE HAD BEEN LEFT, BOUND, GAGGED, AND BLINDFOLDED, BY HIS KIDNAPPERS. APART FROM A SLIGHT BULLET WOUND IN HIS LEFT FOOT, WHICH DID NOT PREVENT CASANOVA FROM STANDING DURING TV INTERVIEWS LATER THAT EVENING, HE WAS IN GOOD HEALTH AND SPIRITS. TERRORISTS HAD SHOT HIM IN THE FOOT WHILE HE WAS BEING TRANSPORTED IN THE BACK OF A PICKUP TRUCK AND HE WAS SLOW IN GETTING HIS FOOT UNDER COVER. THEY LATER BROUGHT SOMEONE TO SEE HIM WHO BANDAGED THE FOOT AND GAVE HIM ANTIBIOTICS. HOWEVER, CASANOVA SAID HE WAS GIVEN NOTHING TO EAT DURING THE 52 HOURS OF HIS CAPTIVITY. INTERESTINGLY, CASANOVA SAID HIS CAPTORS IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES TO HIM AS MEMBERS OF THE SALVADORAN GUERRILLA GROUP POPULAR FORCES OF LIBERATION (FPL), DESPITE FACT THAT ALL

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MESSAGES CONCERNING HIS CAPTURE AND RELEASE PURPORTED TO COME FROM GUATEMALAN EGP.

2. CASANOVA'S RELEASE CAME BEFORE EGP'S LATEST DEMANDS (REFTELS) HAD BEEN FULLY COMPLIED WITH. PRESUMABLY EGP DECIDED IT HAD GOTTEN ENOUGH OF WHAT IT WANTED. ITS COMMUNIQUE WAS PUBLISHED IN ADVERTISEMENTS PAID FOR BY MRS. CASANOVA IN ALL THREE

GUATEMALA CITY AFTERNOON PAPERS MAY 31 AND ALL FOUR MORNING
PAPERS JUNE 1 AND WAS READ MAY 31 BY THE FOUR RADIO NEWS PRO-
GRAMS SPECIFIED IN THE EGP DEMAND. IT WAS NOT READ ON THE
AFTERNOON TV PROGRAMS BECAUSE ALL THREE TV CHANNELS WERE OFF
THE AIR DUE TO POWER FAILURE, AND IT WAS NOT READ ON THE EVENING
TV NEWS BECAUSE BY THEN CASANOVA HAD BEEN RELEASED.

BOSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, PRESS COMMENTS, HEALTH, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GUATEM03437
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770195-0278
Format: TEL
From: GUATEMALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197706104/aaaadmqe.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 49009e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 GUATEMALA 3406
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2005258
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KIDNAPPERS FREE SALVADORAN AMBASSADOR
TAGS: PINS, GT, ES, IDC, (CASANOVA SANDOVAL, EDUARDO)
To: STATE SAN SALVADOR
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/49009e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
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